

# Wichita Eagle

M. M. MURDOCK, Editor.

The eagle has abolished the liberty of Finland, which it has enjoyed for eighty years. Alexander better look out or his abolition may turn out a bootmaker.

Congressman Washington holds up his hands in horror at the idea of women coming to the senate from Wyoming. Mr. Washington is a gentleman from Tennessee, where women know their sphere.

A new census of the City of Mexico is being taken this month under the direction of Dr. Eduardo Liceaga, and it is confidently believed that results will show a population of over half a million. It is a big city.

The postponement of the World's fair until 1893 was not so satisfactory on the whole, but the proximity of the presidential election of the preceding year will make the period of '92 and '93 a memorable one.

The Massachusetts legislature has put a price of twenty-five cents on the head of the woodchuck or ground hog, partly because he is destructive to garden crops and partly because he antagonizes the signal service bureau.

Remember, the New York criminal, is to be executed in Auburn prison during the week ending June 23, by electricity. Since his sentence was passed four others have been condemned to die by electricity in the same state.

After the death of the present pope, the rapid descent is to be changed from Rome. Leo XIII. thinks he is too old to undergo the house moving, and asks that the consideration of such a measure be abandoned until after his death.

As between the demands of the Missouri river towns and the Farmers Alliance for representation on the board of state railroad commissioners, the governor is in something of a straight. How happy he could be with either if the other dear chairman were away.

Mrs. Stonewall Jackson has applied for a pension as the widow of a Mexican war veteran. She is certainly as much entitled to a pension as General John S. Williams, the hero of Cerro Gordo, who was the first man to apply for and receive a pension on account of service in the Mexican war.

Uncle Jerry Bush now backs his eye and knowingly looks ashore at the vault of heaven and the threatening horizon. The signal service is soon to be taken charge of by the agricultural department instead of the war department. The service, however, will not change its policy of "hit and miss, and check back the same way."

The farming and stock raising interests of the west are made to play second fiddle to the shoe and leather interests of the east in the tariff schedule. That is, that is the plain English of the action of the ways and means committee of congress in restoring duties to the free list. Of course the tariff and tariff go with the shoe and the "wool" is again pulled over the eyes of the west.

Judge J. W. Gregory, of Garden City, the originator of the theory for utilizing the underflow of the Arkansas river for irrigating purposes, is still in Washington in the interest of that enterprise, which may yet prove the regeneration of the arid tracts in southwestern Kansas. Judge Gregory appeared before the house committee last week to explain his irrigation project, and several of the members were favorably impressed with his views.

President Harrison has refused to give the Indians now travelling with silver and silverware "Wild West shows" permission to continue in that line of business for another year. The American abolitionists must be protected and he will be "boasted from his short homestead" with civilization and brought back to lounge about the reservation and live off of the government dillies and of a government of the central and whatever else he may pick up.

It is needless to say that it is a Wichita man who wants to do all the banking for the world. It is dollars to doughnuts that he is one of those prominent citizens whose names are "widely" known from the papers—Salina Republican.

The author of the scheme is a Wichita man, but his name is not to be mentioned in the very first mention of the subject in the prints. But suppose you reserve your criticisms of the genuine scheme, as its author, Mr. Sly, suggests, until you have examined it; then it you have something better to suggest, it is better to say so.

Senator Brown, of Georgia, says that he would on no account accept election to another term of service in congress; his ambition is fully satisfied. He is nearly 70 years old, and has been state senator, presidential elector, governor for four terms, chief justice of the supreme court of the state and United States senator. In forty years of public life he has had only one defeat. He has also been engaged in various business enterprises, by means of which he has raised himself from abject poverty to vast wealth.

This is an age of tunnels. One concern proposes to build a submarine road between the Battery and the foot of Atlantic avenue; another one from Fulton street, New York, to Fulton street, Brooklyn; a third one under the Harlem; and now comes a fourth, which thinks that the welfare of the metropolis depends upon a tunnel from that city over to Long Island City. The originator of the last scheme is a westerner, who thinks that in A. D. 1900, no little municipality mentioned will be the business and manufacturing center of Long Island. His plans are gigantic, however, comprising a four-tunnel system, through two of which cars are to pass, and through the others wagons and foot passengers. Before the smart critics have had the opportunity to make such an allegation we will state that the westerner referred to is not a Wichita man. Wichita is not a city of such magnitude as to undertake such an undertaking, only if the W. L. don't run into the ground.

## KANSAS LABOR STATISTICS.

The EAGLE in receipt of the fifth annual report of the bureau of labor and industrial statistics, with the compliments of Frank H. Betton, commissioner. It is a publication of 400 pages, and we will, in the near future, have frequent occasion to refer to its facts and figures of this section of the state. Wichita shows a printed list of seventy-seven manufacturing of various degrees of importance, the table giving the number of operatives employed, capital employed, number of months in operation, value of product annually, cost of materials used, amount paid for labor, amount paid for interest, rent and taxes, etc., etc. There is a vast fund of statistical information contained in the report, which as yet we have not had time to test by our own knowledge of local matters, or to otherwise compare and investigate. If found approximately correct, we shall use and quote extensively within the next few months in showing up the wealth, growth and development of the state, especially of southern Kansas.

## GEOTIC GALL.

The Kansas City Star, a Bourbon Missouri paper that one year ago was lecturing Kansas people daily on the foolishness of prohibition and the baseness and profitableness of high license, but which rather very unaccountably and very suddenly a few months since flopped, presenting the odd spectacle of a Democratic paper in Missouri preaching prohibition for Kansas, is now considerably worked up over the fact that the Republican clubs of Kansas have addressed a letter to Matthew Quay, chairman of the National Republican committee, saying forth that unless the leaders of the Republican party in Kansas can be persuaded to act, and not promptly, in giving the people a rehearsing, the said Republican party will be as deep in the soup next fall as that party in Iowa is today. The Star attempts to belittle the letter sent to Senator Quay, not only, but declares that it is a "issue of misrepresentation," etc. The check of this Democratic Missouri high license cotemporary surpasses all efforts of a Kansas paper to portray, and we leave it to the people of that Mat Quay's.

## INGALLS ON THE GAMBLERS.

The EAGLE's yearling this month, in discussing option dealing and the depressing influence of such a pretended buying and selling of wind wheat, declared that if the farmers of America understood or realized the disastrous results, to them, of option dealing, that they would arm themselves and march down to Washington in such numbers as to compel congress to come to their relief, or otherwise annihilate that body in the interest of honest government. The expression was not only criticised, but it was attempted to be shown by some newspapers that the bulls as often benefited the farmer by pushing up the prices of grain as they were hurt by the bears pulling it down. We did not dream that it was possible that within a year's time the matter discussed would become a national question. But it undoubtedly is. The question is before both houses of congress. The editorial of the EAGLE were sent to Butterworth, of Ohio, whose bill is going to become a law in some shape. Senator Ingalls' speech, reported in our dispatches of yesterday morning, is an honest reflex of the conclusions reached and held by the thinkers among the farmers of the west. He was in the right and all the efforts of Vest, Eustis and George to break the force of his declarations but strengthened his position.

A letter from a prominent business man of St. Louis touching this question and also puncturing Statist's dogmatic fallacies, figures, will be found elsewhere in this issue.

## INGALLS AND THE ALLIANCE.

Among the resolutions passed by the conference of county presidents of the Alliance held at Topeka this week we find the following:

Resolved, Notwithstanding the fact that John J. Ingalls has represented Kansas for eighteen years in the United States senate, it is the duty of his constituents to point to a single measure he has ever championed in the interests of the great agricultural and laboring element of Kansas, and that we will not support by our votes or influence any candidate for the legislature who favors his reelection to the United States senate.

For years chairman and member of the senate committee on pensions, Mr. Ingalls was recognized leader and in advance of most other senators in the advocacy of the soldiers' claims and in denouncing a continually enlarging scope to the pension policy of the government. The service pension bill now pending is his. What do the old soldiers who are members of the Alliance think of the above way of treating a man who has suffered many a hard bout at the hands of the southern brigadier in defending the Union soldier's claims and causes. Does the above-sounding criticism and denunciation of opposition meet with the feelings and judgment of the old ex-soldiers of Kansas? The question is one that must be met, and meet it the broad plain of common fairness and honesty.

And again the resolution sets out that the senator has been devoted to the agricultural and labor interests of this state. We ask how so, and since when. Has there ever been a time in the history of the state that any member of either house in congress has failed to respond to any entangled conviction entertained by Kansas, or when all the members have not, to a man, promptly responded to any and all formulated expressions of desire of the state as a whole? But to come more directly to the point and to a date convenient with all, can any member of that alliance point to a single instance wherein, or to a man who ever made a stronger or more pointed demand, a demand bristling with earnestness, than that made by Ingalls in behalf of the producer of Kansas, and that in which he denounced the methods by which they are being robbed, on the very day that the above resolution was pulled down from a side pocket and forced upon the Topeka convention?

Do not the alliance presidents know that that effort of Mr. Ingalls in the United States senate on Wednesday will be just as well known to the people of Kansas, and far more so to the people of the world, than their resolution, and that Mr. Ingalls' speech will go a thousand

times farther in restraining and finally crushing the option gamblers and labor robbers of this country than the combined voice of that convention which denounced him?

We leave these propositions and questions with the honest members and ex-soldiers belonging to the alliance, themselves.

## INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

For several years the advocates of a copyright law, which is in reality only the application of the principle of protection to the industry of writing and publishing books and periodicals, have urged congress to enact a law to that effect. The bill before the present congress is, perhaps, the most liberal of any that has yet been framed and presented for enactment. The proposition has never met with very general favor for the reason, mainly that the public suspected it of being a scheme primarily to increase the price of literature; but public discussion has in a large measure dispelled the public mind of that notion and it is now more generally regarded as not only a legitimate subject for legislation, but also entitled to the same consideration shown other industries and enterprises.

One of the most frequent objections to the granting of copyright to foreign authors is the impression that any such measure must materially increase the selling price of books. It is pointed out that, in the absence of a copyright, foreign works have been issued in this country at very low prices, and it is assumed that when it becomes necessary to add to the cost of production the amounts to be paid to the authors, and when the sales, now divided between several competing editions, are left under the control of one publisher, the prices paid by the consumer will probably be materially increased.

Those who are contending for international copyright take the ground, on the other hand, that when the American people, who are lovers of fair play, are once convinced of the justice of the claim of authors (American and foreign) to control their productions, and to receive compensation from all who are benefited by these productions, this claim will be promptly granted, whether it costs the public something to do so or not.

Those who are familiar with the business of making and selling books assert further, moreover, that a copyright measure will have the effect of lessening the price of all the better classes of books, which are of the most importance for the higher education and cultivation of the people, and of increasing the supplies of these, and that the only publications which will be increased in price are the cheapest issues of foreign fiction.

This last view of the matter seems to cover the case, and with that understanding there is no valid grounds of objection to such a law.

"The sick man of Europe," about whose complaints so little has been heard of late that he has almost passed into a convalescent, is suffering a slight relapse through nervousness consequent upon the retirement of Bismarck. The ultra-Turkish element will agitate for the removal of many German officials whom Bismarck's influence kept in the Ottoman service, but whose removal would probably irritate the German emperor. Whatever his course in the matter, the sultan is sure to lose friends either at home or abroad.

## DEPRESSION OF AGRICULTURE.

St. Louis, Mo., March 22, 1890.

To the Editor of the Eagle.

The Associated Press dispatches of March 21 and 22 of date of Washington, D. C., contained the following:

The prevailing depression in American agriculture is treated by the statisticians, J. M. Dodge, in his March report of the department of agriculture. The prevalence of low prices is noted and a feeling of discouragement in rural circles throughout the world is indicated. It is and has been especially severe in Great Britain and the subject is complicated, discussion and of local investigation in Germany, France, Italy and other countries. It is present in machinery and implements, intensification of prices are also low, the farmers' interest account is diminished, and the market for the farmer is depressed. The main cause of low prices is referred to as the excessive use of supply and demand, and the fact that the surplus is being absorbed by the population. Immigration has increased the population 5,000,000 in ten years. The surplus is being absorbed by the population and overcrowded the east with western products.

The above from Mr. Dodge is what might be called a regular sickness for the farming industry. We do not know whether "Mr. Dodge" is hired to do anything but collate statistics, or whether in addition to those duties he is desired to give his impressions upon remedies for low prices and general distress among the farming community. We presume he makes his deductions from dry statistics more or less estimated, and more or less correct. We take issue with him, and say there is an over-production, and what has been produced has been neglected and consumed within eighteen months after the time it was harvested, and, whereas, it has been marketed at quite low figures in the past few years, there has been some cause or reason why better prices could not have been obtained.

The first thing to do to effect this end would be to have the surplus, or what might be considered a surplus, safely carried and not let it be used to break down the value of the entire crop of any one article.

We think if you will stop with any one who has watched the market closely for several years past—which we doubt if Mr. Dodge has been able to do more than see what has been published of the markets in the daily press, and has not

been able to see the changes of circumstances and the real motives which have much more to do with effecting values than the statistical problem. Option dealing, or the selling of futures, in enormous quantities, many times more than what is raised in the whole world per annum, has without doubt broke the values of wheat 20 or 30 per cent, notwithstanding the crops that have been grown at home and abroad. The prices of cattle have been largely effected by the heavy marketing of them and their owners' necessities, not to speak of the very expensive methods pursued by the large beef slaughterers in routing out the old butchers and arrogating to themselves to do all the business with a high priced retinue of assistants. But I have not time to continue further, but would say in conclusion, that some power should be brought to bear upon Mr. Dodge to prevent his leaving his position as statistician, or expressing himself upon conditions of value of farm products made to fit the statistics that he is employed to gather, in other words, he has assumed the role of being the most intellectual merchant as well as statistician in the United States, and from his official position he is enabled to do a great deal to depressing various interests and farming industries, the rectifying of which the legislature of the nation will attend to.

If the Butterworth bill, now before congress, had been a law during the past year, there would be no necessity for the three column article written and published broadcast over this country in today's papers from the pen of a statistician, Mr. Dodge. Yours truly, W.

## ARMY SPECULATIONS.

From the Denver Times.

The death of General Crook makes a vacancy in the highest grade of the United States army and raises the often recurring and always vexatious question of promotion. It is the junior in rank of the three major generals, the others being Schofield, commander-in-chief, and Howard. The ranking brigadier general is Nelson A. Miles. It is a strange commentary on the uncertainty of man speculations that fill within the last two years the common expectation of regular officers was that General Miles would be the next permanent commander of the army, General Sheridan was about the same age as his next in rank, Schofield. Both would, therefore, be on the verge of old age, and have been retired at nearly the same time, at the age of 64, or in 1893. Schofield was a few months the younger, and might therefore have enjoyed a brief command.

General Sheridan was younger than Howard and Crook and therefore both would have naturally been retired while he was in command. The next man in rank was Miles. He was eleven years younger than Crook, and eight years younger than Sheridan. But the death of the latter has put the common expectation of regular officers was that General Miles would be the next permanent commander of the army, General Sheridan was about the same age as his next in rank, Schofield. Both would, therefore, be on the verge of old age, and have been retired at nearly the same time, at the age of 64, or in 1893. Schofield was a few months the younger, and might therefore have enjoyed a brief command.

Crook, Sheridan, Howard and Schofield were remarkably near of an age, the oldest being Crook, and the youngest, Schofield, being just about three years.

## WESTWARD THE MARCH OF INDUSTRY.

From the Globe-Democrat.

The approaching removal of the immense state works of the Fuller & Warren company from Troy, N. Y., to Oklahoma, is a significant step in the westward march of industry. It is a movement which has long been in operation, and which is now beginning to take on important and conspicuous proportions. The locality which this concern has just vacated had for many years been the center of the iron and steel industry in the east. It was a leading place in this particular. Its prominence, however, has permanently departed, and the region must look for profit and prominence henceforth in other directions. The removal of the Fuller & Warren company from Troy, N. Y., to Oklahoma, is a significant step in the westward march of industry. It is a movement which has long been in operation, and which is now beginning to take on important and conspicuous proportions. The locality which this concern has just vacated had for many years been the center of the iron and steel industry in the east. It was a leading place in this particular. Its prominence, however, has permanently departed, and the region must look for profit and prominence henceforth in other directions. The removal of the Fuller & Warren company from Troy, N. Y., to Oklahoma, is a significant step in the westward march of industry. It is a movement which has long been in operation, and which is now beginning to take on important and conspicuous proportions. The locality which this concern has just vacated had for many years been the center of the iron and steel industry in the east. It was a leading place in this particular. Its prominence, however, has permanently departed, and the region must look for profit and prominence henceforth in other directions.

## OKLAHOMA OUTLINES.

Chautau City is to have a Farmers' alliance.

The lands are swelling in Oklahoma in society and in orchards.

Frederick has a medical examining board established at that place.

Columbia wants to be a county seat. To say the least it is ambitious.

Several Oklahoma towns complain of the high price of local lumber dealers.

East Guthrie is thinking of holding an election on the first Tuesday of April.

Headright City is the name of a town to be located six miles north of Guthrie.

A Major Geo. F. Harris of Guthrie and Indiana is mentioned as governor of Oklahoma.

El Reno has had more snow with other towns on its hands than any other place in the territory.

Kincheloe expects to be the capital of Oklahoma, and of course it will celebrate April the 22nd.

The only objection to the advent of spring in Oklahoma seems to come from sun and hot feet.

Chautau City will celebrate on April the twentieth anniversary in short all the Oklahoma towns will.

The Kingfisher World speaker of ethics says "Oklahoma's future." This probably is Oklahoma's future.

Mr. Lillie, of Guthrie, is in Washington and refuses to be interviewed. This is queer conduct for an Oklahoma man.

The Cherokee City Courier says that its one letter among the editorial staff of the town paper and that it is supposed to be the only one.

Well digging in the vicinity of Shawnee Springs, in southwest Oklahoma, indicates the presence of coal, gypsum, iron and other minerals.

A common expression in El Reno, according to the Herald: "Nothing around here isn't a thing, it is only money I'm keeping for my wife."

The city council of Jackson last Monday night and decided to hold the election for city officers on April 1, as stated in the mirror's proclamation.

It has not yet been announced that El Reno would move to Oklahoma, but he is about the only one who has not been so notified.

Two new saw mills, one on the south Canadian river, near Silver City, and the North Canadian near Picher, are being built. They promise lumber at \$20 to \$30 per thousand.

An Oklahoman who naturally loves Kansas and her people, but who is not a native, says that the blunders of Oklahoma were fully a half wider and are thicker than those of central Kansas.

A young man from Milwaukee, now residing at Chautau City, has a new way of dealing with contestants. He watched the

## SUNFLOWER SHADOWINGS.

Noble Prentiss says "outfit" is distinctive Kansas word.

One of the surest signs of rain for the morning is to dig bait for a fish the evening before.

Kansas will be allotted two commissioners of the world's fair, one Republican and one Democrat.

The Southwestern Kansas Teachers' association will hold its spring meeting at Syracuse on or about April 18.

There were thirteen old soldiers at Leavenworth arrested in one joint yesterday on the charge of drunkenness.

The Republican convention of the Twenty-third congressional district of Kansas has been called for Garfield, May 6.

It has not yet been announced that R. H. Clover, of the Farmers' Alliance, wants to go to the United States senate from Kansas.

There is a man at Topeka who is laboring under the agreeable hallucination that he is the king of the United States and he is isn't a hotel clerk either.

An uncle of Governor Francis, of Missouri, is to succeed Arthur's disciples, but there is yet to be found a "formerly of Kansas" in that glorified name.

E. N. Morrill has been selected as a member of the board of managers of national soldiers' home at Topeka, Kan.

The candidates for railroad commissioners are A. R. Greene, present incumbent, S. C. King of Atchison, Capt. McKelvey of Cambridge, P. B. Maxon of Emporia and Farmer Smith of McPherson.

The Methodist ministers of northwest Kansas are convened at Minneapolis and are telling one another that the reports, in fact and general outlook, and stinging and praying and disposing, betimes.

A Christian science woman at Arkansas City is trying to cure a horse of the staggers by prayer. Veterinary surgery has changed considerably on the Kansas border since the early portion of eighteen.

Frank P. MacLennan, of the State Journal has been sued for damages in the sum of \$1000 by a Mr. B. L. Lull, who desires to represent the Fifth ward in the Topeka council. The Journal is improving.

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